



# Facts on Women Workers



DECEMBER 31, 1946

## EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN NOVEMBER 1946

The employment of women in November 1946 showed a decrease of more than one million since November 1945. Almost half of these were in nonagricultural work. However, the trend in such work has continued upward since the summer of 1946, 180,000 more women being employed in November than in October. Agricultural work showed a decline greater than that occurring last year at this season.

	November 1946			
	Number of women	Change since October 1946	Total persons Number	Percent women
Population (14 years and over)	54,110,000	+ 50,000	106,840,000	50.6
Employed	16,610,000	- 150,000	57,040,000	29.1
Unemployed	410,000	none	1,930,000	21.2
Armed forces	20,000	none	2,010,000	1.0
Nonworkers	37,070,000	+ 200,000	45,860,000	80.8

## LABOR STANDARDS

Equal Pay — At its national convention in Atlantic City, November 18-22, the CIO adopted a resolution on women supporting the principle of equal pay through union contract and by legislation, as well as the principle of a genuine equal rights bill which would not deprive women of the benefits received by them through existing legislation.

Kentucky Wage Order — A wage board has recently been called by the Governor of Kentucky to revise the "all occupation" order, applicable to all women covered by the law except those working in the laundry, dry cleaning, and dyeing industry, and the hotel and restaurant industry, for which separate industry wage orders are customarily issued.

Domestic Workers in New York — In 1935 domestic workers in New York City averaged \$3.50 a week - earnings which had to be supplemented by relief. Now the most usual rate is \$35 a week. The State-wide average for domestic workers is \$30, which compares favorably with those of women factory workers (\$36.88); beauty service workers (\$30.50); cleaning and dyeing workers (\$28.58); and laundry workers (\$27.14). Part-time workers now form an overwhelming majority of all domestic workers. Daily rates average \$6 in New York City, \$5 elsewhere in the State; 75 cents is the usual hourly rate in New York City, 60 cents up-State.

## WOMEN WORKERS IN CALIFORNIA

Women production workers in durable-goods industries increased for the fifth consecutive month, due chiefly to gains in aircraft, nonferrous metals, electrical equipment. Woman employment in these last two industries in October was at the highest level since VJ-Day. Except for food, every group in the nondurable goods division gained women production workers between September and October or sustained previous-month levels. Continued gains brought women workers in apparel, printing and publishing to a new employment record in October.

## INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

All 21 American Republics were represented at the Inter-American Commission of women held in Washington, D. C., Dec. 2-12. Important were the report and recommendations on the position of women in the Americas to be presented to the International Conference of American States at Bogota, Columbia, next year. A treaty giving women political and civil rights to be proposed to the Bogota Conference was agreed to in principle; a resolution to put into practice the principle of equal pay and to raise low wages of women workers was one of the few accepted.

## TEACHERS' PAY A GRAVE PROBLEM

In an effort to meet the serious problem of teachers' pay, Governor Tuck of Virginia has called an extra session of the General Assembly to meet in Richmond, Jan. 6, 1947. The present average salary for all teachers in Virginia, exclusive of principals and supervisors, is \$1,516. ... The voters of California on November 5 approved 3 to 1 a constitutional amendment fixing a minimum salary of \$2,400 for teachers.

## WOMEN JURORS

The U. S. Supreme Court recently set aside a verdict rendered by an all-male jury in California in a postal fraud case involving a woman defendant. The Court ruled that where both women and men are eligible, Federal courts should call both sexes to sit on juries. The Federal court in California has consistently excluded women from its juries although they may serve in the State courts. (Women are still ineligible to any kind of jury service in 16 States; North Carolina is the latest State to make them eligible.)

## INDIAN WOMAN TO UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

India has the first woman leader of a delegation to the General Assembly of the United Nations. Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, chief delegate of her country, has taken a leading part in politics, was president of the All-India Women's Conference 1941-43. Her brother, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, is leading minister of the interim government.

WOMEN CAN BE ENGINEERS -- Alice C. Goff. Biographical sketches of leading women engineers. One of the few publications on this subject.  
HAVE EQUAL PAY, ITS IMPORTANCE TO THE NATION -- Frieda S. Miller in  
YOU THE LABOR FORCE IN THE FIRST YEAR OF PEACE -- Monthly Labor Review,  
November 1946.  
READ PLACING DOMESTIC WORKERS -- A CHALLENGE TO THE USES - Employment  
Service Review, November 1946.